

# City of Carmel-by-the-Sea community planning and building department

June 11, 2019

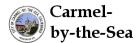
**TO:** Chair LePage and Planning Commissioners

**FROM:** Marnie R. Waffle, AICP, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Supplemental Materials for DR 19-129 & UP 19-130 (Verizon Wireless)

Commissioners,

Please find attached additional public comment on the Verizon project.



### **Cell towers**

1 message

Cindy Daniels <cinnamon9652@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 11:48 AM

To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

We live on 13th 2 NW of San Antonio. We DO NOT want any cell towers located near us. Our Verizon coverage is just fine. Please let the planning committee know our wishes. A written letter is being dropped off today as well. Sincerely,

Bill, Mildred and Cynthia Daniel.

We are unable to attend the meeting as my parents can't get around very well.

June 9, 2019

City of Carmel
Community Planning and Building
P.O. Box CC
Carmel-by-the-Sea, 93921

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We are full-time residents of Carmel and are immensely concerned and outraged by the proposed Verizon 5G cell towers. Putting cell towers next to people's homes and bedrooms is extremely dangerous! Wireless radiation has biological effects seen in all lifeforms including animals, plants and insects. There is clear evidence of cancer, DNA damage, cardiomyopathy (precursor to congestive heart failure), neuropsychiatric effects, diabetes (which can lead to renal disease and dialysis), and mental health deterioration.

How much money is the city being paid to erect these towers of death? Whatever the price, it's not worth the cost!

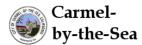
Please research this! Do not turn Carmel into a giant microwave! Protect our beautiful home by the sea!

Thank you,

Doug Hollenbeck

Captain, Southwest Airlines

Christy Hollenbeck



#### **Cell towers**

1 message

eblaett <eblaett@earthlink.net>
Reply-To: eblaett <eblaett@earthlink.net>
To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Wed, Jun 5, 2019 at 6:45 PM

I am resident in Carmel and besides the points you raised in your handouts I think this is a cheap, unacceptable solution for Carmel. The poles are overloaded and a visual blight already. I don't know any city which would put up with it.

The city of Carmel should require that all new wiring etc. should be put underground - or a cell tower in an area which is not purely residential. With the pole solution we are loosing the cell phone capability during a fire on top of PG&E's shut down of power in case of a fire danger

as was proposed in Sacramento last week. You do not allow generators within certain limits of a property, so why should we stand for these ugly cell towers on electricity poles?

We are not in the 20th century anymore - apply 21st century methods.

Pls. forward the e-mail to the Planning Commissioners to enter for the record for the June 12th meeting and keep me up-to-date.

Thank you.

Elisabeth Blaettermann NE Corner of Monte Verde & 10th Avenue Carmel

mailing address: 225 Crossroads # 418 Carmel, CA 93923

June 9, 2019

Dear Ms. Waffle:

Please forward my letter in this attachment to all Planning Commissioners and enter it into the public record for the upcoming Planning Commission meeting that will decide the five Verizon small cell permit applications.

June 10, 2019

Re: Deny Cell Facilities / Important Safety Information / 27 pages

Dear City of Carmel Planning Commissioners:

I and many other residents of Monterey are appealing to the Carmel Planning Commissioners to deny the proposed cell facilities in the beautiful and historical town of Carmel.

You will find in the attachment a report of researched information and we ask you to review it and use it to get the cell facilities denied. They will only cause ruin to the beautiful and forested community of Carmel and there are safety risks for your residents as you will understand by reading on.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Adamo

#### REASONS TO DENY A CELL FACILITY LOCATION

Please review these reasons and the report that is following to oppose the cell facility applications. This report and mainly covers fire risks that are a major concern for Carmel with its forested and "Very High Fire" neighborhoods. However, there are many other serious issues involved.

Of course once one application is approved in a Residential Zone there will be countless other applications on other utility poles and light poles across the city. There is also the ongoing problem of pole overloading and unaccountable equipment. This experimental microwave radiation equipment can be installed extremely close to a resident's home.

There are many health issues, including cancer and other environmental concerns from the Radio Frequency Emissions that is alarming hundreds of doctors and scientists worldwide and those with EMF sensitivity. For children whom are still growing and developing it adds a particular concern. This subject alone can be extensively covered in another report. The actual amount of RF emissions is a continual concern.

I should mention that this equipment is much uglier and massive than the photos the Contractor from ExteNet showed the residents and the industrial look would ruin Carmel's historic and nature setting that makes it so unique. Imagine one of these unsightly facilities adjacent to a historic Comstock building or a charming gingerbread home.

Home owners are concerned as a nearby cell facility will surely depreciate the value of a property and desirable residents in general don't want to live next to one or buy a home close to one.

Microwave electromagnetic equipment needs a coolant system or a fan to keep it cool. There have been resident complaints of fans being noisy.

There is something else that is a safety concern. Carmel is in an extreme disadvantage because it is a forested environment and is considered a "Very High Fire District". This is a major safety issue for the residents. Monterey's neighborhood of Monte Vista also had a safety issue in their forested community. This report covers the many different fire threats that will affect Carmel with this added electromagnetic microwave radiation equipment and is a legal safety issue.

#### REASONS TO DENY A CELL FACILITY LOCATION

At the March 15, 2018, Planning Commissioners Meeting in Monterey, the fire risk issue was largely covered. One of the Planning Commissioners was actually retired from a career in the Telecommunications Industry and he knew that these cell facilities could very well cause a fire and that ExteNet and the Verizon lawyers were not revealing it. Verizon was offering Monterey the cheapest way to install these cell facilities, and the plan was careless with the safety of the residents in a Very High Fire Community of Monte Vista.

The one remaining cell facility application, from the original 13 was denied during Monterey's P.C. Meeting on March 15,2018. The reasons were that Monterey had a Wireless Ordinance which had been researched for violations, and aesthetics was a big issue, and there did not appear to be a coverage gap. The other reason was potential safety issues, an inappropriate location of the cell facility, including increased fire risks, especially on a public right-of-way.

I should add that the proposed cell facility was on a street that was at a corner of another long street of residents that dead ended and would leave them with no evacuation route in a fire. Also there was a demonstration example of this cell facility pointing in the direction of Pebble Beach.

In conclusion the Monterey Planning Commissioner's required this of ExteNet: ExteNet / Verizon were required to provide an Automatic Shut Off Switch in case of a fire at the cell facility location. The shut off switch is to be placed at a different location and can automatically shut down the power so that fire-fighting will not be delayed in a wait time.

And... ExteNet / Verizon was required to provide an underground vault for the pole equipment, and this would include the two bulky Ericsson radios that could malfunction and overheat, or if damaged and cause a fire.

And ... they were to provide a secure underground vault that would contain a fire until fire-fighters arrive.

And .. The underground vault for the equipment would be water tight, so that a fire could not arc up through the ground and ignite another fire.

#### REASONS TO DENY A CELL FACILITY LOCATION

ExteNet (the Contractor) and Verizon does not appear prepared to provide this now. Maybe they will have this refined in the next several years. Many in Monterey want under-ground utilities for safety and aesthetics and fiber optics to the home that will provide the most advanced technology and will not go obsolete. Since then, Monterey has also selected a Sub-Committee of qualified and educated neighbors to draft a Revised Wireless Ordinance to strengthen it for better local control.

We ask Carmel's Planning Commissioner's to carefully read over the "Fire Risk" Report following, and examine each location of the proposed cell facility application and identify any problems, including how fire risks will endanger that location with the added microwave electromagnetic equipment. For Carmel, all locations would be inappropriate because it is a Forested and "Very High Fire" Community.

The problems found should then be revealed and presented at the Planning Commissioner's Meeting that will vote on the approval or denial of the cell facility applications at that time. This will help get it denied and ensure the safety of the residents. The Contractor will try to adjust a problem for an approval.

Please read on ...

CARMEL - BRIEF SUMMARY OF FIRE AND SAFETY CONCERNS Carmel's Very High Fire and Forested Community and has the most flammable type of trees. Very risky to install microwave equipment close to trees and homes.

Cell equipment is Non-Ionizing Radiation proven to cause heat and it will intensify any fire. Microwave electromagnetic equipment is higher voltage and higher wattage which will intensify any fire and make firefighting harder.

Microwave radiation equipment can malfunction or if damaged catch fire, and the antenna will burn like a torch until the fire department extinguishes it.

Water cannot be used. The equipment is experimental.

There is a current ongoing problem with pole overloading and unaccountable equipment because of the JPA – Joint Pole Association.

There have already been so many deadly, costly and heartbreaking fire disasters because of utility companies, power lines, equipment, and poles, and fires are increasing and intensifying in California.

PG&E has stated that they cannot fully comply with fire safety rules. This is largely because of global warming and other companies are also trying to back out of responsibility.

Global Warming has caused the trees to severely dehydrate and they are more flammable and brittle to break apart. No one knows when the next drought will be.

Many tall pine trees stand above this microwave radiation equipment and the antenna. Branches can break apart to strike and damage it to spark a fire.

Camel's own policy for preserving their beautiful trees have left many areas of residential streets thick and overgrown with foliage.

In a fire there is an evacuation route concern on Carmel's very narrow streets and some dead end.

Carmel's evacuation routes are limited for the population to escape to a main thoroughfare road in a fire disaster. Along with the narrow streets and overgrown foliage many could be victims of not being able to escape in a gridlock of vehicles.

The combination of these problems is setting Carmel's residents up for a disaster.

#### INCREASED FIRE RISKS WITH CELL FACILITIES

Increased fire risks with this equipment in a Very High Fire neighborhood is a very real threat to residents that neither Verizon, nor their contractors have revealed. We have talked to numerous Fire Chiefs and Firefighters in various locations of California and it has been an education in fire prevention that has not been talked about.

This statement is advice from a popular Anti-Cell Tower Attorney based in New York that may be encouraging for you --

"You as City Leaders have the legal right to deny these applications to protect the Citizens from any potential adverse impact that the installations of the cell facilities might create."

Anticelltowerlawyers.com anticelltowerlawyers.com/questions-answers/

From the facts and evidence involving fire risks you will find here with this added microwave radiation equipment, we ask you to identify any potential adverse impacts that they will cause. Please ensure the safety of your residents.

# MAJOR WILDFIRES - UTILITY POLES, POWER LINES, AND SOME WITH TREE CONTACT

2007 - Malibu fire – Pole Overload (Southern California Edison)

2007 - Witch, Rice fires (San Diego Gas & Electric)

2015 - Butte Fire - A pine tree falling on power lines (Pacific Gas & Electric)

2017 – North Bay and Santa Rosa Fire – PG&E's Power Lines and Utility Poles

November 2018 - Paradise, California - Reduced to Ashes

2019 - PG&E states that it can't fully comply with safety rules.

May  $2019\,$  - California Says PG&E Power Lines Caused Paradise Camp Fire That Killed 85

With the recent fire disasters and heartaches that have happened, electromagnetic microwave equipment should not be installed in a Very High Fire Neighborhood. The cost of the deadly fires is astronomical and would need a report of its very own. The fact that the utility companies are trying to back out of responsibility is very disturbing.

#### FACTS ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT

Anti-Cell Tower Lawyers based in New York, suggested viewing several cell facilities on You Tube that have caught fire. These cell facilities are not guaranteed and with the blinding pace of installations makes "quality control" virtually impossible. Small Cell Facilities are no different and are made of the same mechanisms. They are not an exception.

Microwave Radiation Cell Facilities consist of Non-Ionizing Radiation and are proven to cause heat. Doctors use it to burn out tumors. This means the equipment can get really hot. This is the composition of the small cell facilities. If the cooling feature or the fan malfunctions on this equipment, or a part wears out, or if damaged by accident of any kind – the utility pole can catch fire.

Microwave electromagnetic equipment is higher voltage and higher wattage which will intensify any fire and make firefighting harder. Also it should be noted that many residents in other cities have already complained about noisy fans.

PG&E's Smart Meters are high voltage and potential ignition sources, containing flammable lithium batteries. They are a safety issue if damaged and especially when placed in a public right-of-way with oncoming traffic. In a pole collision, the attached smart meter could be damaged and spark a fire. Once the fire reaches the antenna it will blaze like a torch until the fire department can extinguish it. At the Planning Commissioners Meeting in Monterey, an ExtreNet Representative admitted that in the case of a pole collision, the power must be shut off by the utility representative called to arrive at the scene. There is a wait time for this shut off until firefighting can begin. A smart meter that is placed within a pedestal on a public right of way, in a collision is particularly dangerous.

Even repairs to a cell facility can spark a fire. PG&E is now hiring Sub-Contractors because they are cheaper than skilled employees. In 2007 one Subcontractor repairing a transmitter site with his cutting torch caused a drastic fire on Catalina Island. Adding this equipment to the utility poles will increase fire risks and intensify any fire. When the equipment is in need of repair the surrounding environment is "Very High Fire" and all it takes is a spark on dry debris to ignite one.

### FACTS ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT

Statistics show a leading cause of wildfires are caused from Utility companies and their equipment, including Telecommunication companies. Also high on wildfire statistics is vegetation and tree contact with power lines and electrical equipment.

We now know of the recent state determinations of the disastrous Northern California fires and it is faulting PG&E's powerlines and utility poles. Also, the Butte Fire, Witch Fire and Rice Fire were all caused from power lines, and some with tree contact. Then in May 2019, California says, PG&E Power Lines caused the Camp Fire at Paradise that reduced it to ashes and killed 85 people.

# POLE OVERLOADING IS A CURRENT PROBLEM AND UNKNOWN POLE EQUIPMENT - (JPA – Joint Pole Association)

Once one cell facility application is approved, other competitors with their equipment cannot be denied. Most of the cell facilities will be installed on utility poles joint owned by PG&E. They are co-dependent and this interlinks them, and adding microwave radiation equipment will increase fire risks.

With the 2017 Northern California Wine County raging wildfires that killed 44 people, NBC Investigative News asked the California Public Utilities Commission about the utility poles. The President, Michael Picker, replied with the stunning statement --" Regulators don't know basic information about these utility poles. Such as, "Where is the pole?" "What's on it? "Who owns the pole?" What's the condition of the pole?"

And NBC reported -- PG&E had trouble accounting for their power poles – Last year stating: "Complete information on all attachments and equipment on poles is unattainable so long as joint owners are not required to provide all parties information on attachment and equipment installations."

The previous statements are referring to "joint owners" and Verizon's contractors are a member of the "JPA" or Joint Pole Association. Pole overloading is a current problem and there is often confusion on what equipment is on a pole. Once one application is approved, multiple competitors cannot be denied.

#### POLE OVERLOADING IS A CURRENT PROBLEM

The 2007 Malibu Canyon fire caused outrage from pole overloading and the Mayor referred to it as "time bombs". Poles can snap, lines can break and spark, causing a fire. The heavy, bulky Verizon equipment will increase this problem, intensify a fire and once the fire reaches the antenna it will blaze. The problem of pole overloading has not been resolved.

AT&T, Verizon, and Sprint paid \$4 million each in a settlement in the Malibu Canyon Fire. These telecommunication companies had 92 poles located along a 3.4 mile stretch that needed upgrades to safety standards. The utility company (Southern California Edison) that was at fault paid \$51.5 million in a settlement being responsible for overloaded, jointly owned poles.

NBC Bay Area: The Investigative Unit last October 2017, reported another danger, quoting a California Public Utility Commission's Supervisor: "When overloaded utility poles have unaccounted gear — It can act as a sail on a pole a windy area."

Much of Verizon's equipment will be pole mounted and the two radios are a bulky mass measuring 22 by 10 inches each. The antenna shroud is 2 foot by 14 inches and some will be top pole mounted, and some will protrude from a 3 foot extension arm. With the weight, mass, and profile of this equipment alone, the words of warning about bulky equipment become clear — "Sail on a pole in a windy area." We can have high winds here and Verizon's equipment can be caught on the wind, adding stress on the pole to fall.

Power lines and electrical equipment are a leading cause of wildfires. LA Times - October 2017

PG&E Identifies 8 Electrical Failures NBC Bay Area News / Investigative News - October 2017

Also, poles can rot from the inside out. Multiple bolted on equipment can contribute to poles rotting as mist and water can seep through. Then there are termites, carpenters ants, and woodpeckers. Poles are not designed for this heavy added on equipment and Verizon's pole equipment adds extreme bulk and weight.

#### MORE FIRE RISKS .....

From the LA Times and Mercury News last October 2017, we read -The deadly Northern California fire is under investigation – but utility companies are largely being suspected. It took 44 lives and cost 9.4 billion dollars. Again, utility companies and telecommunication equipment are interconnected and adding microwave radiation equipment will intensify a fire and increase fire risks.

PG&E replied in a statement last October 2017 --

"These destructive winds, along with millions of trees weakened by years of drought, all contributed to some trees, branches and debris impacting our electric lines across the North Bay," "In some cases, we have found instances of wires down, broken poles and impacted infrastructure."

So, the disaster here is being blamed on winds, drought and trees and that's what we are trying to warn you about. Take a look around and you can see our dry trees here that can break apart in a wind to strike this electromagnetic equipment, and damage it to spark a fire.

And the Press Democrat in February 2018 reported - PG&E's power lines ignited at least two small fires in Santa Rosa, - The City says in the first investigation.

This June 2018, we are informed by State investigators that the utility, PG&E is at fault for 12 of the worst fires in California history, the Wine County fires.

Last year a CPUC, California Public Utilities Commission Audit shows that PG&E helped delay efforts for nearly a decade to map where powerlines pose the greatest wildfire risk – and they failed in thousands of instances over a 5 year period to conduct timely inspections and work. These cell facilities and the utility company are interlinked and this added microwave radiation equipment will intensify the fire and make firefighting harder.

With the Wine County fire of October 2017, the CPUC, Director of Safety and Enforcement stated to the LA Times News Team that -- "They review an average of 120 incidents a year of potential violations by various types of utilities, and not just electrical".

#### MORE FIRE RISKS .....

The latest news is PG&E along with other companies is trying to get out of responsibility for fires they caused. One reason is largely they don't know what to do about global warming.

#### FIRE HAZARD EXAMPLE - UTILITY POLE EQUIPMENT

If a vehicle, suburban or truck collides into the pole with the equipment and two attached Ericsson Radios this can damage the equipment to overheat, catch fire and set the pole on fire. The Smart Meter with its lithium battery is extremely flammable and if damaged, could likely catch fire. Even an ExtreNet Representative at the March 15, Planning Commissioners Meeting in Monterey, admitted that in the case of a pole collision, the power must be shut off by the utility representative (PG&E) arriving at the scene.

Pole collision is not uncommon and adding this equipment to the pole with oncoming traffic on a public right-of-way is a safety factor and increases a potential fire risk. Once the pole catches fire and reaches the antenna it will intensify the fire with its electrical toxins and the antenna will blaze like a torch. That is one of the reasons why a tall tree should not be standing nearby and above the antenna.

Water cannot be used. Electrical fires must be put out immediately because they spread rapidly, but there is a wait for the power to be shut off by the arriving utility representative before the fire department can work to extinguish it.

Hot debris, or molten metal and even an ember from the fire can easily spark a fire on nearby dry trees, vegetation, and even dry debris on the ground below such as flammable pine needles. An ember, especially with a little wind could be taken further to spark another fire.

Verizon's pole equipment has a coolant system and if it malfunctions or a part wears out (which is not uncommon with equipment) then this can cause the equipment to overheat and can catch the utility pole on fire.

Also, there is the problem of the heavy, bulky mass and profile of Verizon's pole mounted equipment and it can be caught on the winds to cause stress on the pole to fall, which in turn will spark a fire. Some of antennas are on a 3 foot protruding arm extension and these can also be caught on winds to stress the pole to fall.

### FIRE HAZARD EXAMPLE - UTILITY POLE EQUIPMENT

As of 2018 the trees are still weakened and dry from the previous 5 year drought and will take another 5 years to recover. Foresters say that many trees may not appear dehydrated but are very dry inside and have bark beetles which leave them more susceptible to branches breaking. Dry and brittle branches can easily break in winds and strike the antenna or pole equipment to damage it and spark a fire.

Basic safety advice recommends never placing electrical equipment near a tree that stands higher and above the equipment. Probably the rule would double that for microwave electromagnetic equipment, being higher voltage and higher wattage in combination with the most flammable pines and dehydrated trees.

And, a fire can start simply from another source and once the fire reaches the antenna with its electrical toxins it will blaze like a torch. All of the equipment will intensify a fire to burn hotter causing it to spread rapidly.

#### SMART METERS ON PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS

The most dangerous place for the Smart Meters is placed inside the inexpensively made pedestals on a public right-of-way with oncoming traffic.

The Smart Meter has a lithium battery and all Firefighters we spoke with confirmed the extreme flammability of these smart meters if damaged. If a vehicle or suburban should lose control and crash into the cheaply made smart meter pedestal, or run over it – the damaged smart meter will likely inflame. If the vehicle catches fire then hopefully it will not reach the gas tank. Unfortunate for the driver and the firefighting would then be electrical and gas combined. Flying hot debris and embers could fly and catch fire to the nearby flammable trees and vegetation. Even just the sparks from the damaged smart meter could ignite a fire on nearby vegetation.

Remember, water cannot be used and there is a wait time for the utility company to arrive and shut the power off on electrical fires before firefighting can take place. This is important because electrical fires burn hot, intensify and spread rapidly and must be put out immediately. Imagine if this microwave radiation equipment catches fire in the middle of the night or at a time when it's not noticed right away.

#### **FIREFIGHTING**

We talked to two Fire Chiefs, and numerous Firefighters in various locations. We learned that any electrical equipment of high wattage or high voltage has the potential to catch fire, especially if damaged. To avoid a lawsuit Firefighters cannot say anything negative about a certain brand of equipment, and the cell facility equipment is experimental. However, it was generally understood that if any of this electromagnetic equipment or smart meter is damaged or malfunctions or a part to its cooling system wears out, it can catch fire.

The Firefighters in this county are simply the best. However, you simply cannot put total responsibility on the Firefighters to add microwave electromagnetic equipment that is higher voltage and higher wattage on public right-of-ways with oncoming traffic. It will certainly increase the fire risks, intensify a fire, and make firefighting harder. Many heroic firefighters have been injured or died in these intently burning electrical fires. Adding this microwave radiation equipment to a Very High Fire environment makes it even worst.

Once a fire starts around these cell facilities that are on 24/7, because of the electrical intensity of the fire it can spread rapidly, therefore it must be put out immediately. Again, electrical fires cannot be put out with water.

The antenna with its electrical toxins will make the fire worst, and will blaze like a torch. Hot debris or molten metal from the equipment can easily spark a fire on nearby trees, vegetation or dry ground debris. Even a little wind can take the embers further to spark another fire.

Hopefully it's not at night, and someone notices it right away to call 911. Our Firefighters for their own safety must – let it burn. The wait for a PG&E Representative to arrive to shut off the power is 10 minutes and sometimes longer before the Firefighters can attempt to put out the fire.

Once the power is shut down, a dry chemical can be used to extinguish it and hopefully there will be enough of it. The antenna is exposed on all sides and makes it difficult to contain the dry chemical and embers can still be flying to ignite another fire. Electrical fires can re-ignite with hot spots. While firefighters are striving to put it out, winds can carry other embers further to spark a new fire. Adding this microwave electromagnetic equipment will intensify any fire, and make firefighting more difficult.

#### **FIREFIGHTING**

A fire with this microwave equipment, if it's raining can cause it to arc up or cause a short circuit which can ignite another fire. There is a danger of electrocution for the residents even on damp ground near the area and that is why firefighters will not attempt to put it out until the power is shut down. Remember these firefighters that have this difficult responsibility also refused to have cell antennas placed on top of their fire stations because of adverse health effects.

Many of the Carmel's charming streets are very narrow and some dead end. They are thick with foliage and trees. The narrow streets are more difficult for Firefighters with their fire trucks to maneuver through and can slow up firefighting. This is also a problem because fires involving microwave radiation equipment must be put out immediately because it will burn intently and spread rapidly.

#### TREES and CLIMATE CHANGE

Statistics have shown that numerous fires start from power lines, electrical equipment and tree contact. Safety experts warn not to have electrical equipment near a tall tree that is higher than the equipment. Trees that are weakened can have branches break easily in the wind. It is careless to install microwave radiation equipment near dry and flammable trees and especially ones that stand above the equipment. It is setting the stage for a disaster.

Foresters from 2018 say because of the previous 5 year drought that many of our trees may appear green but are dry inside and infested with bark beetles. It will take another 5 years of abundant rain to recover them. With global warming there is likely to be another drought. This means dry, flammable, brittle and weakened trees and many are on their way to death. Weakened trees can cause more branches to break and can strike power lines or this equipment and ignite a fire.

All types of Coniferous trees and Pine trees are extremely flammable. Some of the trees that are especially stressed by the previous drought are Pine trees, Monterey Cypress trees. Oak trees, and Eucalyptus trees.

#### TREES and CLIMATE CHANGE

The Monterey Pines are top heavy giants with shallow roots, and live only 80 to 90 years. They are particularly susceptible to tree fall with high wind or with water saturation and can strike the equipment or power lines.

As reported from LA Times (October 2017), we learn from Ted Kury, Director of Energy Studies at the University of Florida's Public Utility Research Center -- "that just flying debris in a wind storm could strike a wire and cause it to break loose and ignite a fire."

Recent news reports -- "Over the past decade in California, fires have gotten bigger, and more frequent. Experts agree that climate change in California means a future of hotter weather, more droughts, more and intent wildfires, and threatened forests."

The disastrous Northern California Fires of 2017 that killed 44 people are an awakening and State Investigations have determined PG&E is largely at fault for the worst fire in California history. Also the Paradise Fire of late 2018 killed 85 people and again State Investigators have blamed the Utility.

#### MICROWAVE RADIATION and TREES

Carmel has a policy for protecting and preserving their beautiful trees. Installing this equipment will require more trees to continually be cut down to accommodate the equipment.

It should also be mentioned that microwave radiation damages, dehydrates, and kills trees. There has been a 10 year scientific tree study in Germany from 2006 to 2015 proving this electromagnetic radiation causes tree damage and death.

In turn this microwave radiation equipment will continue to dehydrate and weaken the trees, causing more breakage in winds and more risks to strike the equipment or power lines to spark a fire. The dehydrated trees will also be more flammable.

Large trees can fall down here on the Monterey Peninsula in 30 mph wind or less and microwave radiation will further weaken the trees. The special and forested environment of Carmel is completely wrong for this kind of equipment to be distributed throughout its neighborhoods.

#### **EVACUATION ROUTES**

Camel's own policy for preserving their beautiful trees have left many residential streets thick and overgrown with trees and foliage. Many of the streets are very narrow and some dead end. This adds an evacuation concern. Carmel's thoroughfare routes are also limited for the population of residents by vehicle trying to evacuate in an emergency and make it out to Highway 1, or to the Seventeen Mile Drive gate at Pebble Beach.

With these concerns residents could literally be victims of not being able to escape a fire disaster in a gridlock of vehicles. This is difficult to think about, but with the thick trees and foliage in Carmel's forested neighborhoods, there could be burning trees, branches, or debris that could fall on the vehicles in the chaos of trying to escape all at once. This is serious and is not an exaggeration.

If this should happen at night the situation would be worst yet. With this added microwave radiation equipment there needs to be adequate evacuation routes for the population of residents to exit a forested neighborhood in an emergency.

Here is an example. Earlier just this year (2019) there was a rain storm, but we had some company and I wanted to drive over to Bruno's Market in Carmel to get some special food items. Little did I know there was a tree down and Ocean Avenue to Highway 1 was blocked off because of this situation. I took Carpenter Street to get into Carmel and after shopping at Bruno's I also drove out to exit on Carpenter. It was about 3:00 p.m. and not yet traffic hour and there was a gridlock of vehicles everywhere I looked. There were bumper to bumper vehicles coming out of the narrow side streets from every direction. It literally took me an hour and a half to get out of there and get back home to Monterey.

Think about this.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

This is environmental but should be mentioned that microwave radiation damages birds and insects. When a tower goes up, nearby birds either move their nests or face a decline in their offspring. Birds staying near a tower often never finish building their nest in their apparent confusion. A tiny fraction of a cell tower's power, 40 microwatts, will kill bird embryos. Insects are profoundly affected by radiation. A ten-minute per day cell phone placement in a bee-hive will cause the bees to stop honey production, lose interest in procreation, and the bee hive will die in a matter of five weeks. A nature's environment where numerous birds and animals live is not the place for microwave radiation equipment. It is not an urban city or concrete jungle.

### A FEW QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WITH INCREASED FIRE RISKS

#### POLES FOR CELL FACILITIES

What's the condition of the pole?

Is the pole located on a busy right-of-way?

Is the pole located on a downhill slope on a right-of-way?

Is the pole near a curb or a blind corner?

Is the pole equipment near dehydrated or very flammable trees, or near a tree standing above it?

Is the pole at a location or a dead end street, leaving no evacuation route for some residents?

Are there good evacuation routes for the community of residents by vehicle?

#### **SMART METERS**

Where is the smart meter placed on the pole?

The smart meter has a lithium battery and is very flammable. It can catch fire in a vehicle collision on a public right of way.

Is the Smart Meter placed in a pedestal on a public right of way with oncoming traffic?

In a collision the pedestal is not a safety feature and this could be disastrous especially in a Very High Fire Neighborhood.

### ANTENNA AND EQUIPMENT

Do you have tall overhead trees that stand above any of the cell facility equipment in close proximity? Do they stand above the antenna?

Do the nearby trees or vegetation look dehydrated? Any spanish moss?

Is the antenna placed below a pole transformer?

The transformer is known to blow or explode if overheated. The antenna will blaze like a torch when it catches fire and should never be below a transformer. (The pole transformer is located high on the pole and is shaped like a canister.)

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Is the particular location of the cell facility in a high fire risk area? How close is the cell facility application to dried flammable trees and homes? Is your neighborhood prone to high winds? Storms?

Is there abundant vegetation or dense foliage near the location?

Does the vegetation or trees appear dehydrated? Any dry ground debris nearby? EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE TREES AND PLANTS

Most trees and vegetation are flammable, but some are extremely flammable especially as global warming is dehydrating them. Identify any of the following extremely flammable trees, plants, or ground debris near the cell tower facility.

Extremely flammable: Trees with narrow or thin leaves, coniferous trees, pine trees, cypress trees, juniper trees, eucalyptus trees, dehydrated oak trees, spanish moss, and dense foliage.

Palm trees that are not maintained can explode into a giant torch.

Extremely flammable plants: Plants than contain resins, oils or waxes; Perennial and annual grasses, pampas grass, ornamental grasses, coniferous shrubs, rosemary, galberry holly.

Many types of flammable ground cover: Pine Needles, pine cones, ground mulches, wood chips and bark, dead leaves, twigs, dried debris, etc.

Thank you for reading about fire prevention, identifying problems, and how adding this equipment will increase fire risks. You have the right to deny a cell facility application if there are potential adverse impacts and increased fire risks at a location that will endanger the residents.

Article links follow:

#### NEWS PAPER ARTICLE LINKS

These are some excellent Newspaper articles with the links that some of this fire risk information were extracted from. Copy and Paste the key heading or the link into your search engine to find these articles or websites.

California Says PG&E Power Lines Caused Camp Fire That Killed 85 New York Times – May 2019

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/15/business/pge-fire.html

### PG&E to federal judge:

Impossible to completely comply with wildfire prevention rules February 23, 2019 - The Mercury News

# \*\* POWER LINES AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT ARE A LEADING CAUSE OF WILDFIRES.

LA Times - October 2017

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=power+lines+and+electrical+equipment+are+a+leading+cause+of+wildfires&t=h &ia=web

#### PG&E IDENTIFIES 8 ELECTRICAL FAILURES.

NBC Bay Area News / Investigative News - October 2017

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=pg%26e+identifies+8+electrical+failures+&t=h\_&ia=web

# PG&E LINES FELL IN WINDS THAT WEREN'T HURRICANE STRENGTH. MERCURY NEWS

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=PG%26E+lines+fell+in+winds+that+weren't+hurrican e+strength&t=h\_&ia=web

\*\* PG&E BLAMED FOR 12 CALIFORNIA FIRES, FACES FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL PERIL

San Francisco Chronicle - June 2018

### \*\* ANTICELLTOWERLAWYERS.COM

http://anticelltowerlawyers.com/questions-answers/

Campanelli and Associates, P.C.

#### CELL TOWERS COLLAPSE. FIRE

http://www.electronicsilentspring.com/primers/cell-towers-cell-phones/cell-tower-fires-collapsing/

## NASA ENGINEER OPPOSES SMALL CELLS IN PIEDMONT, CA Scientists for Wired Technology November 14, 2017

http://scientists4wiredtech.com/2017/11/nasa-engineer-opposes-small-cells-in-piedmont/

Nasa Engineer, Peter Harvey Being Interviewed by CBS-KPIX News, SF Bay

### WALL OF SHAME - PHOTO GALLERY OF "SMALL" CELLS

http://whatis5g.info/photo-gallery-of-small-cells/http://whatis5g.info/

#### RANCHO SANTA FE REVIEW SEPT 14 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=rancho+santa+fe+review+sept+14+letters+to+the+edit or&t=h\_&ia=web

Regarding: YES on under-grounding utilities and Fiber Optics.

## PG&E POWER LINES LINKED TO WINE COUNTRY FIRES The Mercury News - 10/10/2017

 $\frac{https://duckduckgo.com/?q=PG\%26E+power+lines+linked+to+Wine+Country+fir}{es\&t=ffnt\&ia=web}$ 

# PG&E POWER LINES SPARKED TWO OCTOBER FIRES IN SANTA ROSA, CITY SAYS IN FIRST INVESTIGATION

The Press Democrat / February 3, 2018

http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/7945514-181/pge-power-lines-sparked-two?artslide=11

# LESSONS FROM DISASTROUS WINE COUNTRY FIRES HELPED IN BATTLING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INFERNOS

http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-norcal-socal-firestorms-20171216-htmlstory.html

THE MYSTERY BEHIND CALIFORNIA'S MOST DESTRUCTIVE WILDFIRES. ONE PRIME SUSPECT: UTILITY GIANT PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

Los Angeles Times / November 18, 2017

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=The+Mystery+behind+California%E2%80%99s+most +destructive+wildfires&t=ffnt&ia=web

CBS News - October 17, 2017 - 77 Cell Towers burned

Crucial communication proves difficult as wildfires knock out cell towers

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/northern-california-wildfires-cell-towers/

# CALIFORNIA REGULATORS LOOK INTO PG&E EQUIPMENT CONNECTION TO WILDFIRES

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=california+regulators+look+into+pg%26e+equipment +connection+to+wildfires&t=ffab&ia=web

COMPANIES TO PRESERVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AND RECORDS THAT MIGHT BE LINKED TO THE FIRES. Electric Light & Power 10/16/2017

# UTILITIES DELAY EFFORTS TO MAP POWER LINE RISK TO WILDFIRES US NEWS

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=utilities+delay+efforts+to+map+power+line+risk+to+wildfires&t=h&ia=web

#### EDITORIAL: PG&E RECORDS SHOW UTILITY CANNOT BE TRUSTED

https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/10/26/editorial-pge-records-show-utility-cannot-be-trusted/

CAUSES OF CALIFORNIA'S WORST WILDFIRES: POWER LINES, LIGHTNING, ARSON, MORE

San Francisco Chronicle - 10/22/2017

http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Causes-of-California-s-worst-wildfires-power-12294852.php

# PG&E NEGLIGENCE OVER PINE TREE STARTED BUTTE FIRE IN SIERRA: CALFIRE

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=PG%26E+Negligence+Over+Pine+Tree+Started+Butte+Fire+in+Sierra%3A+CalFire&t=ffnt&ia=web

#### 12 MILLION SETTLEMENT REACHED IN 2007 MALIBU CANYON FIRE

 $https://duckduckgo.com/?q=12+million+settlement+reached+in+2007+malibu+can yon+fire\&t=h\_\&ia=web$ 

SPRINT, VERIZON, AT&T SIGN \$12 MILLION SETTLEMENT OVER 2007 MALIBU CANYON FIRE

http://www.scpr.org/blogs/environment/2012/09/13/9969/sprint-verizon-t-sign-12-million-settlement-over-2/

#### OVERLOADED UTILITY POLES CAUSE OUTRAGE. Malibu

https://duckduckgo.com/?q=Overloaded+utility+poles+cause+outrage&t=ffnt&ia=web

THE MALIBU TIMES Sep 19, 2013

### CPUC APPROVES \$51.5-MILLION MALIBU CANYON FIRE SETTLEMENT

http://www.malibutimes.com/news/article\_3d62067a-2175-11e3-86b6-001a4bcf887a.html

AGL MEDIA GROUP / Above Ground Level November 14, 2013

JOINT-USE OF POWER POLES RAISES SAFETY CONCERNS

http://www.aglmediagroup.com/joint-use-power-poles-raise-safety-issues/

# WINE COUNTRY FIRES: GOV. BROWN VETOED 2016 BILL AIMED AT POWER LINE, WILDFIRE SAFETY

https://www.mercurynews.com/2017/10/11/wine-country-fires-gov-brown-vetoed-2016-bill-aimed-at-power-line-wildfire-safety/

# CALIFORNIA: GOV. JERRY BROWN VETOES BILL EASING PERMITS ON CELL PHONE TOWERS

https://www.mercurynews.com/2017/10/16/california-gov-jerry-brown-vetoes-bill-easing-permits-on-cell-phone-towers/

HOW MANY 5G CELL TOWERS ARE COMING TO OUR COMMUNITIES? VERIZON DISCLOSES THE HUGE NUMBERS

The number of 5G utility pole cell towers coming about two years from now, after the new 4G utility pole towers are deployed.

http://whatis5g.info/5g/2018/01/how-many-5g-cell-towers-coming-verizon-discloses-numbers/

# NEW VERIZON ANTENNAS GENERATE UNWELCOME BUZZ IN SANTA ROSA

http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/7864085-181/new-verizon-antennas-generate-unwelcome?artslide=0

# PALO ALTO: RESIDENTS OPPOSE VERIZON'S PLAN TO ADD 92 CELL ANTENNAS IN NEIGHBORHOODS

https://www.mercurynews.com/2017/10/19/palo-alto-residents-oppose-verizons-plan-to-add-92-cell-antennas-in-neighborhoods/

# PALO ALTO: ADVISORY BOARD TELLS VERIZON TO HIDE CELL EQUIPMENT

Palo+Alto+Advisory+board+tells+Verizon+to+hide+cell+equipment&t=ffnt&

#### CELL TOWERS ON UTILITY POLES ON YOUR STREET !!!

http://mystreetmychoice.com/

#### HOW DO POWER LINES CAUSE FIRES?

Nadrich & Cohen, LLP by L. Taylor | Nov 8, 2017 | North Bay Fire, Personal Injury | https://www.personalinjurylawcal.com/north-bay-fire/power-lines-cause-fires/

TREES AND POWER LINES / RIGHT-OF-WAY SAFETY - SAFETY RULES

Western Area Power Administration – WAPA (A government Website)

https://www.wapa.gov/newsroom/FactSheets/Pages/trees-powerlines.aspx

WILDFIRES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

American Forest Foundation

https://www.forestfoundation.org/wildfires-and-climate-change

STATE, COUNTY STILL HAS HANDS FULL DEALING WITH DEAD TREES

http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171216/NEWS/171219866

Trees are weakened from the previous drought – many have bark beetles.

IS CALIFORNIA HEADING BACK INTO A DROUGHT?

http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20171215/NEWS/171219878

NUMEROUS TREES DOWN ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA / KION NEWS February 2016

http://www.kion546.com/weather-authority/numerous-trees-down-on-the-monterey-peninsula/67116697

STRONG GUST BRINGS DOWN TREES AROUND PENINSULA

http://www.montereyherald.com/article/NF/20160131/NEWS/160139967

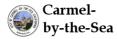
Monterey Herald - 1/31/2016

# SUNSPOTS AND CELL TOWERS FUELED THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRESTORM

New Evidence - A Medium Corporation US November 21, 2017

https://medium.com/@james.4base/sunspots-and-cell-towers-fueled-the-northern-california-firestorm-6e05c830fc8d

This article is speculation on the mystery of the Wine County Fires. How could entire houses, refrigerators, washing machines, porcelain bathtubs, be incinerated and melted to the ground? There were 77 cell towers that burned but how did the scorched trees remain standing with green leaves on them?? It was like the fire had "microwave" properties within it. The article suggests electromagnetic radiation activity.



#### **4G Cell Towers in Carmel**

1 message

Jo Lawson <joanlawson@me.com>
To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us
Cc: Anthony Lawson <16kpsi@gmail.com>

Sun, Jun 9, 2019 at 2:57 PM

Hi Ms. Waffle.

I own a home near 13th & San Antonio Streets. I also have an 11 year old daughter. I am very, very concerned about cell towers going in so close to the homes in my neighborhood. The health issues that these can cause are alarming and far outweigh any legitimate reason to place them in our beautiful town. There doesn't seem to be any coverage gaps for Verizon customers and we certainly don't want more microwave radiation in our area. Especially with children near by.

Additionally, the negative affect on on our home's values and requirement to disclose this upon the sale of our home, because it is a known health issue, is quite upsetting.

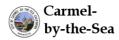
Please keep Carmel special AND safe for all who live here as well as those who visit.

I implore you to keep these towers from being installed. And please forward my email to the Planning Commissioners and enter it into the record for the June 12th meeting.

Please add me to your distribution list for communication on this and other important topics.

Kind Regards,

Jo Lawson 3NW 13th & San Antonio 415-867-2176



#### Fwd: 5G Cell Towers In Carmel

1 message

Safarina Maluki <smaluki@ci.carmel.ca.us>
To: "Marnie R. Waffle" <mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 8:20 AM

Please see forwarded email trail from City Administrator below.
Safarina Maluki
Administrative Coordinator
City of Camel-by-the-Sea
P.O. Box CC
Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921
(831) 620-2018
smaluki@ci.carmel.ca.us

\*\*E-permitting has come to Carmel-by-the-Sea, click here for more info.\*\*
Help improve Community Planning & Building. Click here to take our survey!

------ Forwarded message -----

From: Chip Rerig <crerig@ci.carmel.ca.us> Date: Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 8:16 AM Subject: Re: 5G Cell Towers In Carmel To: Jim Messemer <jjmessemer@gmail.com>

Cc: Dave Potter <dpotter@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Marc Wiener <mwiener@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Debbie McDonald Messemer

<dmessemer@gmail.com>, Safarina Maluki <smaluki@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Thank you, Mr. Messemer. We will insure the PC receives your comments.

Take good care.

Chip Rerig, City Administrator City of Carmel-by-the-Sea 831.620.2058

On Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 7:55 AM Jim Messemer <jjmessemer@gmail.com> wrote: Good morning Dave, Chip and Marc, I hope this note finds all of you well.

It has come to our attention (wife Debbie) that the city will be placing 5G Towers in Carmel by the Sea. If this is the case this letter is to state our opposition to placing five 5G cell towers near our homes in Carmel by the Sea. 5G cell towers transmit high levels of microwave radiation 24 hours a day. In our homes, we should not be subjected to high levels of radiation day and night from very nearby towers (across the street to a few homes away). It is a prime responsibility of the Planning Commission, City Council and Mayor to safeguard the health of our citizens.

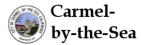
The information supporting the dangers of 5G towers are plentiful and I would respectfully request you do a deep dive. I am sure you would agree when reading the following it is cause for GREAT concern! I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

### Dangers of 5g Towers

For example: Peer-reviewed published science shows harmful effects of cell **tower** radiation include: fatigue, headaches, sleep problems, anxiety, ringing in the ears, heart problems, learning and memory disorders, increased cancer **risk**, and more.

Sincerely,

Jim and Debbie Messemer San Antonio 2 NW of 13th St 415-517-7291



### **Planning Commission Meeting Re: Verizon Small Cells**

3 messages

Kristin Dotterrer <kristinmey@gmail.com>
To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Thu, Jun 6, 2019 at 10:34 AM

Dear Ms. Waffle:

Please forward my letter to all Planning Commissioners and enter it into the record for the upcoming Planning Commission meeting that will decide the five Verizon small cell permit applications. Please also place my email on your distribution list for updates about this upcoming meeting. Is it still to be June 12th at 4 p.m.? When will the agenda be posted?

Dear City of Carmel Planning Commissioners:

Cellular facilities have no place in Carmel's beautiful, world-renown residential districts, directly outside of people's homes, as the city's own wireless ordinance agrees. If you permit even one of the five small cell towers that Verizon is proposing in the Golden Triangle of Carmel, federal rules require you to also permit all other telecommunications providers to turn additional utility poles into high-power, high-frequency cell towers throughout Carmel. It is no secret these companies are pushing for a rapid deployment of densified cellular facilities, but what is important to remember, even though Verizon claims falsely otherwise, is that cities have the legal right to decide "time, place, and manner" of access to public rights-of-way (see T-Mobile v. San Francisco).

Hundreds of scientists have called for a moratorium on the rollout of 5G, which these five cell towers are capable of quickly and legally becoming without another permit process if approved. The U.S. government's National Toxicology Program recently found microwave radiation causes tumors at levels below FCC limits. Children suffer the worst effects. It is horrifying that FCC RF emission limits are based on science done in the 1980s and that no monitoring of emissions exist locally. Are we really expected to believe the very companies that are going to financially benefit? The city cannot use health concerns as a basis for denial. You can however deny each application on a list of other concerns that incommode the public and violate your wireless ordinance.

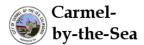
The City of Monterey did not give in to fear tactics when the Planning Commission unanimously denied Verizon's last small cell application of their original thirteen planned for a two-mile-radius in residential Monterey Vista. Please join forces and follow suit in order to protect the historic and idyllic character of your neighborhoods.

My family uses Verizon cellular service in this area frequently and has never had any issues with either calling or data. The purpose of this type of equipment is to increase capacity and sell internet and TV packages streamed directly into customers homes, not to fix a calling coverage gap. Verizon's own map that they market shows complete coverage in this neighborhood. However, all residents and visitors will be impacted by visual blight, lowered property values, close proximity of RF microwave radiation, and increased fire risk. Verizon has failed to demonstrate the "significant coverage gap" that is required to pass this permit process. We do not want them and we do not need them.

Verizon is proposing to increase the height of already hideous utility poles and overload them with additional heavy equipment boxes hanging over sidewalks and yards, and antennas that can catch fire if they malfunction, such as during high winds or car pole collisions. With an already high fire risk, the most flammable coniferous trees, narrow streets, and limited escape routes, do we really want to increase not decrease our fire risk?

Carmel is an exceptionally special place. Please listen to your residents who choose to live here due to the exceptional charm and natural aesthetics that would be completely ruined by residential placement of Verizon's five small cell towers outside our homes.

Sincerely, Kristin & Daniel Dotterrer



### **Cell towers**

1 message

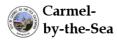
**Kathleen Henney** <khen@redshift.com> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Wed, Jun 5, 2019 at 1:33 PM

I live right between 3 of these towers and DO NOT want them in my neighborhood. Please forward this to the Planning Commissioners and enter into the record for the June 12th meeting.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Henney Monte Verde 2 SE 10th Avenue



### Planning commission meeting - Small cell towers - June 12th 4:00pm

1 message

Michele Altman <michelealtman1221@gmail.com> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us Thu, Jun 6, 2019 at 5:37 PM

Marnie,

Please forward my letter to all Planning Commissioners and enter it into the record for the upcoming Planning Commission meeting that will decide the five Verizon small cell permit applications. Please also place my email on your distribution list for updates about this upcoming meeting. Is it still to be June 12th at 4 p.m.? When will the agenda be posted?

I am representing over a dozen home owners from the Texas area who own homes here in Carmel. Some of them will be flying in to be present at the upcoming meeting. These owners are absolutely irate at the Telecom industries plan to instal cell towers in this beautiful, historic, coastal town. World renowned for its natural beauty. These towers do not belong here. Please add my name to the email distribution list and add my comments to the public record on behalf of multiple home owners in the Golden rectangle of Carmel.

Hundreds of scientists have called for a moratorium on the rollout of 5G, which these five cell towers are capable of quickly and legally becoming without another permit process if approved. The U.S. government's National Toxicology Program recently found microwave radiation causes tumors at levels below FCC limits. Children suffer the worst effects. It is horrifying that FCC RF emission limits are based on science done in the 1980s and that no monitoring of emissions exist locally. Are we really expected to believe the very companies that are going to financially benefit? The city cannot use health concerns as a basis for denial. You can however deny each application on a list of other concerns that incommode the public and violate your wireless ordinance.

The City of Monterey did not give in to fear tactics when the Planning Commission unanimously denied Verizon's last small cell application of their original thirteen planned for a two-mile-radius in residential Monterey Vista. Please join forces and follow suit in order to protect the historic and idyllic character of your neighborhoods.

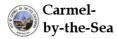
My family uses Verizon cellular service in this area frequently and has never had any issues with either calling or data. The purpose of this type of equipment is to increase capacity and sell internet and TV packages streamed directly into customers homes, not to fix a calling coverage gap. Verizon's own map that they market shows complete coverage in this neighborhood. However, all residents and visitors will be impacted by visual blight, lowered property values, close proximity of RF microwave radiation, and increased fire risk. Verizon has failed to demonstrate the "significant coverage gap" that is required to pass this permit process. We do not want them and we do not need them.

Verizon is proposing to increase the height of already hideous utility poles and overload them with additional heavy equipment boxes hanging over sidewalks and yards, and antennas that can catch fire if they malfunction, such as during high winds or car pole collisions. With an already high fire risk, the most flammable coniferous trees, narrow streets, and limited escape routes, do we really want to increase not decrease our fire risk?

Carmel is an exceptionally special place. Please listen to your residents who choose to live here due to the exceptional charm and natural aesthetics that would be completely ruined by residential placement of Verizon's five small cell towers outside our homes.

Michele Altman - Carmel Realtor

Michele Altman
SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY
Cell 831-214-2545
www.MicheleAltman.com
Michele.Altman@Sothebyshomes.com
3775 Via Nona Marie, Suite 100 Carmel CA 93923



### VOTE NO to the installation of 5 Verizon cell towers in my neighborhood

1 message

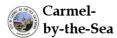
**Marionkeyworth** <mskeyworth@gmail.com> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us Wed, Jun 5, 2019 at 11:37 AM

Dear Marni,

This letter is intended to register my opposition to Verizon's installing 5 cell towers in my neighborhood. Please forward this email to the planning commission members to enter my opposition into the record on June 12. They are ugly, dangerous, and unnecessary. Also please add my email to your distribution list so I can be informed about subsequent meetings and meeting changes. Instead, I would like the City to underground all utilities. A bond could be floated so those of us in the neighborhoods where utilities will be underground will share in the cost.

Thank you Marion Keyworth Dolores 2SW of 9th Carmel by the Sea, CA 93921

Sent from my iPhone

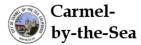


# City of Camel-By-The-Sea - Planning Commission Meeting Wednesday, June 12, 2019 - Agenda Item 4 - Verizon

1 message

| Theodage  |   |
|---|---|
| Phil Smith <philsmith1@sbcglobal.net> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us</philsmith1@sbcglobal.net>  | Fri, Jun 7, 2019 at 4:18 PM                                       |
| Dear Ms. Waffle,  |   |
| Please forward my letter to the Planning Commissioners to be entered into the record for the June 12 <sup>th</sup> Pl   | lanning Commission Meeting.                                       |
| Thank you,  |   |
| Phil Smith  |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| Dear City of Carmel Planning Commissioners:   |   |
| I am writing to express my opposition to the installation of Cellular Facilities in the beautiful reside would be in total opposition to the Carmel by the Sea Architectural Guidelines and other Ordinance that Carmel's character and quality of life be maintained. These guidelines and ordinances are what and unique community.   | es established years ago to insure                                |
| In addition to aesthetic reasons, there is a safety issue of radiation as well as being a potential fire homeowners in Carmel and is in violation of existing ordinances and will result in a decline of propractical and more suitable options for cellular facilities such as placement in commercial district hidden from view and installed so there is no health or safety hazard. These telecom giants are located their community. | perty values. There are other<br>s in such a manner they would be |
| We would appreciate your taking these comments into consideration in denying the Verizon Use F operation and maintenance of these five wireless communication facilities on existing utility poles residential districts.   |   |
| Thank you for your service to our Community.  |   |
| Phil Smith  |   |
| Carmel, Ca  |   |
|   |   |





#### **Cell Phone Towers**

1 message

**Stephen McClellan** <stephenmcclellan@comcast.net> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 9:54 AM

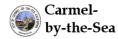
Marnie: Please forward to Planning Commissioners, for the record for the June 12th meeting, and add us to your distribution list....

#### **Planning Commission**

My wife Elizabeth Barlow and I want to go on record as opposing the Verizon installation of 5G cell phone towers on the utility poles in Carmel-By-The-Sea. We live on 11th Ave. 2NE San Antonio. I spent my 32-year career on Wall Street as an investment analyst covering high tech stocks including the software, information and telecom sectors. Thus, I understand the 4G and 5G cell phone technology. The existing cell phone towers these past many years were erected in locations distant from populations, along highways and outside golf courses, and were camouflaged to blend into the natural environment. This next generation will need to be much closer together, and thus on existing telephone poles in heavily populated areas. The risk to health, cancer, and safety are not well known or understood. The unsightliness and hodge podge aspect of the installations is yet another relevant aspect that would be a negative impact on Carmel natives. Verizon and the telecom industry needs to improve/refine and alter this 5G technology before inserting it into local neighborhoods. I bet the CEO of Verizon would not want such an installation on his telephone pole on his property.

There is already quite a precedent for refusing permission for such installations. Other upscale, high quality, coveted communities such as Mill Valley and Ross have negated these structures. And, of course, Monterey has similarly refused such applications to install 5G tower equipment. They have done their homework. I am sure the Planning Commission will do the right thing, follow these examples, and send a message to Verizon and the telecom industry to figure it out and not assault Carmel-by-The-Sea with such a proposal/construction.

Stephen T. McClellan CFA 415-515-9009 stephenmcclellan@comcast.net



#### **5G Cell Towers in Carmel - Planning Commission**

1 message

Stan Meresman <stan@meresman.com>

Sun, Jun 9, 2019 at 9:25 PM

To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Cc: Sharon <sharon@meresman.com>, stan@meresman.com

Dear Ms Waffle,

Please forward this email to the Planning Commissioners and enter it in the record for the next Planning Commission meeting currently scheduled to 6/12/19.

Also please place us on the email distribution list for updates.

This letter is to state our opposition to placing five 5G cell towers near our homes in Carmel by the Sea. It is well documented that 5G cell towers transmit high levels of microwave radiation 24 hours a day. In our homes, we should not be subjected to high levels of radiation day and night from very nearby towers (across the street to a few homes away). It is a prime responsibility of the Planning Commission, City Council and Mayor to safeguard the health of our citizens.

Respectfully submitted, Stan and Sharon Meresman NW corner of San Antonio & 13th Ave Carmel by the Sea

#### Dear Planning Commissioners:

We are very much against the installation of the Verizon wireless communication equipment as proposed and respectfully request that you deny Use Permit 19-130.

There have been no health studies done to measure what impact the higher radio frequency antennas in very dense infrastructure will have on insects, animals, children and the elderly. The lack of information and the intensity of the radio waves even have the unions concerned for the workers who have to climb the utility poles for maintenance. What about the people who live with them imbedded into their neighborhood? No advancement of this project should occur without careful and knowledgeable assessment of the health risks.

These "junk yards on a pole" will have a jarringly negative impact on Carmel. For years, Carmel has dreamed and schemed about how to underground the utilities. We avoid street lights like the plague and plant trees in the roadways! Why in the world would we pay so dearly with such an esthetic blight in order to have the "internet of things"?

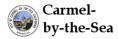
Just because technology  $\underline{can}$  do certain things does not mean that it  $\underline{should}$  be done. Do you really need to have your refrigerator send a text to your cell phone? Is the negative impact on our village really worth being able to download a movie in seconds rather than a few minutes? The claimed improved service is of little value to this community which is not made up of gamers or others who think they need 5G service. Our 4G cell service is excellent.

I am also very concerned that so few of our citizens seem to know this is being considered and what it will mean to our neighborhoods and our lives. We went to four of the five sites in the SW area of Carmel and only found notices posted on two locations. Shouldn't something this significant be widely broadcast to the community? Shouldn't placing such intrusive equipment so intimately within our homes be thoroughly investigated and explained to the citizens?

Do not open this Pandora's Box with this poorly studied and unnecessary technology. The five installations are only the beginning. Please deny this use permit!

Sincerely yours,

Wayne and Shirley Moon



#### **Cell Tower**

1 message

**Tim Allen** <tim@uniquepeninsulahomes.com> To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Thu, Jun 6, 2019 at 11:22 AM

Dear Ms. Waffle,

Please inform the planning commission that we are opposed to the installation of the Version cell tower behind our home on San Antonio and 10<sup>th</sup>. The towers along with the equipment are unsightly and take away from the character of our town. We believe it should be a priority for Carmel to bury the power lines and this installation would be going in the opposite direction. Lastly we are very concerned about the possible negative health effects the towers can cause. I don't believe there has been enough research completed to know the whole story and if cell towers are safe, especially if they are located so close to residences.

Thank you,

Tim and Lynn Allen

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# Cell Phone Towers. What Distance is Safe to Live?

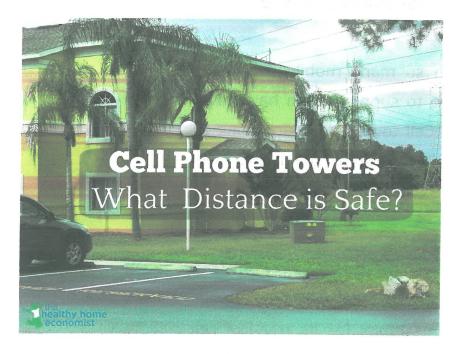
by Sarah Pope MGA | Updated: May 15, 2019

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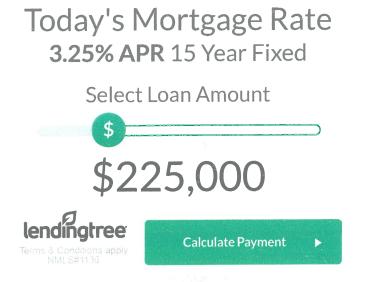
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City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Planning & Building Dept.



Mobile phone use continues to expand rapidly around the world. Within the next year, the number of cell phone users worldwide is projected to pass 5 billion. In the United States, well over 90% of adults now have a cell phone. The rate is nearly 50% among children as young as 10!



Not surprisingly, with so many mobile devices in use, the infrastructure to support them has grown substantially as well. Cell towers are continuing to pop up everywhere. In my small town, two new applications were filed this year alone!

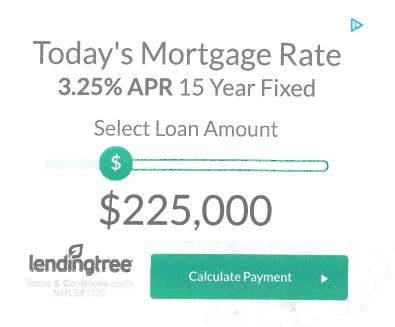
If you don't see any in your neighborhood don't be fooled. Some cell towers are now disguised to look like trees especially if the tower is in a residential area. Disney World is famous for its tree-like cell phone infrastructure that blends almost invisibly with real foliage nearby.

The good news is that a growing number of people are now taking wise precautions to protect themselves from electromagnetic radiation (EMFs).

Radiation free (airtube) ear buds, laptop shields and carrying cases are three that we use in our home. Avoiding fitbits and wireless baby monitors and turning off wifi at night are wise steps too. Smart

meter covers are another safety device that people are resorting to in order to avoid the health risks from smart meters that generate strong EMF signals 24/7.

#### **Cell Tower Radiation**



But what about cell phone towers and mobile antennas attached to existing structures? You can't easily avoid them as they are *everywhere*. They are even constructed right next to schools in some cases.

# Scientific Research: Living Close to a Cell Tower a Likely Cancer Risk

Many people seem to not worry about living or working in close proximity to cell towers and antennas. However, German and Israeli research to date gives cause for concern.

# **German Research on Cell Tower Safety**

In a German study, doctors examined close to 1000 patients to see if living at the same address close to a cell tower for 10 years affected cancer risk. The social and age differences within the study group were small, with no ethnic diversity.

They discovered that the proportion of newly developed cancer cases was three times higher for those living within 1300 feet (a quarter of a mile) of a cellular transmitter compared to those living further away. In addition, they found that the patients became ill with cancer on average 8 years earlier.



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A distance of 1300 feet (400m) is of particular importance. This is because computer simulation and measurements used in the study indicated that the radiation at that distance or less (the "inner area") is 100 times greater than emissions beyond that distance (the "outer area").

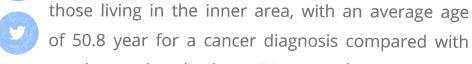
Another important observation from the research is that for the first 5 years of living near a cell phone tower the risks were no different than someone



rears 6-10, reefold for ss from a

mobile tower. Even more concerning, the average age of diagnosis was much younger. Risk for breast cancer, prostate, pancreas, bowel, melanoma, lung, and blood cancer all increased substantially.







# Israeli Mobile Phone Tower Research

Israeli research conducted by Tel Aviv University confirms a similar pattern.

In this study, 622 people living 1148 feet (350m) or less from a cell phone transmission station for 3-7



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Out of the high exposure group, 8 cases of cancer were diagnosed within just one year. 3 cases of breast cancer and 1 case each of ovarian, lung, bone, kidney and lymphatic cancer.

In the control group, only 2 cases of cancer occurred even though the control group was roughly twice as large as the highly exposed group.

Based on these results, the researchers calculated the relative risk of cancer to be over four times higher for those living 350m or less (about one-fifth of a mile) from a cell phone transmitter.

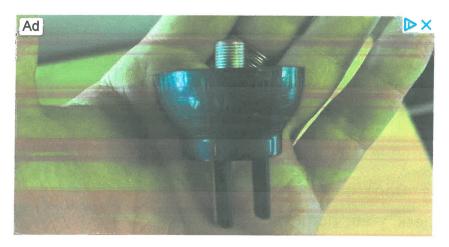
# Women May Be More Susceptible to **Cell Tower Radiation**

The Tel Aviv University research found that women appear to be more susceptible to the health effects of living near a cell tower than men.

Seven out of the eight cancers that arose during the first year were females. Thus, women living one-fifth of a mile or less from a cell tower experienced a ten fold increase in cancer risk compared with controls.

# Cell Phone Tower Safety. What Should YOU Do?

If this research is concerning to you as it was to me, would recommend that check you out antennasearch.com.



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This site provides information on how many cell phone towers and mobile antennas are in your area. The exact distance of each from your home address is provided as well.

Do not rely just on your visual observation of the neighborhood. Cell towers are increasingly disguised as trees. Moreover, even if no cell towers exist, there are likely plenty of cellular antennas on existing buildings and other structures.

A typical mobile phone tower will hold 10 or more cellular antennas for various companies.

If you are planning to buy a home in the near future, consideration of cellular phone infrastructure nearby is very important. It ranks right up there with schools and other positives and negatives about the neighborhood.

I fully expect that in the future, as more research concerning the effects of EMFs on human biology emerges, real estate prices will be affected by their relative proximity to cell phone towers and/or antennas.

One word of warning. Don't be overly concerned when you initially check your home address for nearby cellular infrastructure. The number is likely to be extremely high!

Wait until you see how close the towers and antenna are first! For example, I discovered that there are 81 towers and 124 antennas located within 4 miles of my front door! This is in a rural residential community too! However, once I looked more closely, I found that none of them is closer than a half mile away.

# What to Do if You Live Very Close

If you find that you live within the inner circle of cellular towers, my suggestion is to consider moving. Though inconvenient, this is by far the best option. I've already had one friend change homes because of extreme sensitivity to high EMFs in her area. To date, Sweden and Germany recognize electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS) as an actual medical condition. I expect that to grow in the coming years. (1, 2)

In lieu of moving, there are bioenergetic devices

that claim to reduce the exposure and/or risks from electromagnetic radiation. Whether they work or not is up for debate. As of this writing, I haven't found any conclusive, randomized data to suggest they are helpful one way or another. However, if you can't move, they are probably at least worth a shot! Perhaps in the future, they might be proven beneficial.



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Another thing to be aware of is that EMF exposure has the potential to increase free radical activity in the body. Thus, living near a cell tower may decrease levels of certain protective nutrients. Thus, ensuring adequate levels of antioxidants such glutathione is a very good strategy.



Sarah Pope MGA

Since 2002, Sarah has been a Health and Nutrition Educator dedicated to helping families effectively incorporate the principles of ancestral diets within the modern household.

Sarah was awarded Activist of the Year at the International Wise Traditions Conference in 2010.

Sarah received a Bachelor of Arts (summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) in Economics from Furman University and a Master's degree in Government (Financial Management) from the University of Pennsylvania.

Mother to three healthy children, blogger, and best-selling author, her work has been covered by USA Today, The New York Times, National Review, ABC, NBC, and many others.

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Sara Jones

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# 3G Vs. 4G Mobile Networks: The Health Factor

Are 4G LTE Mobile Networks More of a Health Hazard?



Prasit photo/Getty Images

by Priya Viswanathan ①

Updated February 11, 2019

There was a time when <u>3G mobile networks</u> were most sought-after by mobile users. But that has now given way to the much more advanced, <u>4G LTE network</u>.

Tremendously powerful and featuring faster bandwidth, this network provides

lightning-fast service to mobile Internet users. However, just like everything else, this is also not without its downsides. The latest allegation is that the fourth generation technology is several times more of a health hazard than any of its predecessors.



Activists have been reiterating for long that <u>cellphone towers</u> and the use of <u>smartphone</u> and <u>mobile Internet</u> could pose a serious threat to our health and wellness. According to them, mobile phone companies and carriers are well aware of the potential pitfalls the latest technology poses, but are keeping silent due to fear of hurting their own profit margins. Instead, they merely highlight the great advantages these gadgets would be able to bestow on our lives and the conveniences they offer.

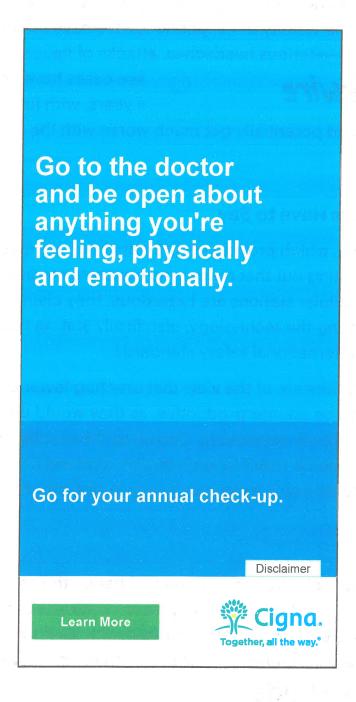
Is this accusation actually true? Are mobile users availing the latest technology at the cost of their health? In this article, we bring you an analysis of 4G technology, from the health point of view.

## **More Exposure to Radiation**

When cellphones had just entered the market, they were predominantly used to make calls while on the move and type out text messages. But all that changed in just a few years' time. While 3G made it possible to browse the <u>Internet on mobile devices</u>, the following generation - 4G – has made it possible for users to stream rich media content right on their smartphones and tablets.

While this obviously is beneficial for people who are in transit most of the time, the negative side is that this technology uses more bandwidth than 2G or 3G networks, which also means, more exposure to radiation. For 4G to work efficiently, several

more high-power towers have to be erected and networked with each other. This is believed to emit much more radiation than before, which could, in turn, cause severe health issues at a later time.



#### **Series of Antennae**

In order to make the latest handsets capable of receiving the full bandwidth power of <u>4G networks</u>, smartphone manufacturers are equipping them with a series of antennae in one handset. According to health experts, his further intensifies the risks of being exposed to more radiation; hence increasing the possibility of carcinogenic

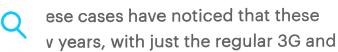
and other attacks.

### **Reported Issues Caused by Cellphone Towers**

Though no conclusive evidence has been drawn up as yet, several people living or working long hours in the vicinity of cellphone towers have complained about the sudden emergence of mysterious headaches. attacks of nausea, blurry vision and







Wi-Fi networks and could potentially get much worse with the proliferation of 4G towers.

### **What Mobile Carriers Have to Say**

Leading mobile carriers, which provide 4G LTE networks, are quick to speak up in their own defense. Pointing out that there is no concrete medical evidence to prove that the existence of cellular stations are hazardous, they claim to have undertaken long trials prior to offering the technology; also firmly stating that their network strictly adheres to all international safety standards.

Furthermore, many carriers are of the view that erecting fewer cellphone towers would actually prove to be counterproductive, as they would only result in increasing the radiation which users are exposed to. Reducing the number of towers would weaken signals, which would result in each station emitting higher output, which could actually prove to be much more dangerous in the long run.

#### In Conclusion

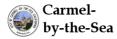
Advancing technology is always both a boon and bane - the case is no different with mobile networking. While 4G bestows many more conveniences on us than 3G ever could, it comes with potentially very dangerous health issues as well. In any case, with no conclusive medical evidence to prove Ad nything at all, we continue to wait and

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#### Verizon towers

Ziaieh Gibbs <zmgibbs@gmail.com>

Sun, Jun 9, 2019 at 8:35 PM

To: mwaffle@ci.carmel.ca.us

Cc: Roy Auerbach <rauerbach19@gmail.com>, zizi gibbs <zmgibbs@gmail.com>

Dear Ms Waffle.

Because of many factors, including safety, i.e.high levels of microwave radiation, the towers being subject to high winds and increasing chances of fire, etc., impact on property values,

giving a precedent for other telecom companies to use utility poles and other reasons, we oppose approval for the Verizon cell phone towers. It is our understanding that there is a safer alternative- High-speed municipally-owned fiber optic cable.

Please forward this email to the Planning Commissioners and enter it into the record for the June 12th meeting. Also, please put our email on the distribution list to get updates on meeting date changes. Our email is <a href="mailto:zmgibbs@gmail.com">zmgibbs@gmail.com</a>.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

Roy Auerbach Ziaieh Gibbs 10th 2SW Casanova P.O. Box 4681 Carmel, CA 93921